

September 26, 2014 - Regional News

AAMVA News

AAMVA Headquarters is On the Move

Starting Monday, September 29th, AAMVA headquarters will be located in a new office. Phone numbers and email addresses will NOT change. Our new mailing address will be **4401 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22203**.

At noon ET on Friday, September 26th, AAMVA headquarters will begin its physical move to the new location. The physical move will not interfere with the operational support provided by AAMVA, and will be completed by start of business on Monday, September 29th. During the physical move, AAMVA's Operations Helpdesk will maintain a normal schedule and will be available by phone, 888-AAMVA80 Option 1, and e-mail, helpdesk@aamva.org.

Please be aware there may be minor delays in responding to phone calls due to the physical move and that AAMVA Operations will make every effort to respond to inbound calls and emails sent to helpdesk@aamva.org in as timely a fashion as possible. We thank you for your patience as we make this transition to our new location.

Region I

Cyclists File Lawsuit Against DMV (New York)

A group of New York City cyclists filed a class action lawsuit against the Department of Motor Vehicles on Sept. 16, to refund thousands of dollars to bikers fined by the DMV. The cyclist groups allege that they were forced to pay a mandatory \$88 surcharge for traffic violation tickets and received additional points on their licenses. Many cyclists, seeing the word mandatory on the ticket, paid the fine. These extra penalties, however, are only supposed to apply to motor vehicle operators. Read the full story at [NYUNews.com](http://www.nyunews.com).

<http://www.nyunews.com/2014/09/24/dmv/>

Region II

Driver Services Commissioner Announces New Online Service "Pre-Apply Online" (Georgia)

Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) Commissioner Rob Mikell recently announced a new online customer service tool designed to improve licensing efficiency and ultimately reduce customer wait times. Pre-Apply Online enables customers to jump start their licensing service by submitting a completed application for a license, permit or identification card before visiting the DDS. This additional

online enhancement helps fulfill the DDS mission of embracing new technologies to serve a greater number of customers more efficiently. Read the press release for more information.

<http://www.dds.ga.gov/news/newsdetail.aspx?id=362>

NCDMV, NCDHHS and MorphoTrust Partner to Pilot First Secure Electronic ID Initiative (North Carolina)

The North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles, in conjunction with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and MorphoTrust, have partnered to pilot a secure electronic ID initiative through a grant awarded by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Read the DOT press release.

<https://apps.ncdot.gov/newsreleases/details.aspx?r=10336>

Woman Denied Texas License Due to Same-Sex Marriage

A woman who has just moved to Texas from California says she is being denied a legal Texas driver's license. Connie Wilson and her partner Aimee have relocated to the Houston area with their three children. Connie took Aimee's last name when they were legally married in California more than a year ago. However, she said she's now being told that name doesn't legally belong to her in the Lone Star State. Read the full story at USAToday.com.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/09/23/woman-denied-drivers-license-same-sex-marriage/16095795/>

Region III

Crash Reports Available Online; WisDOT Makes Requesting Copies of Crash Reports Easier (Wisconsin)

Individuals involved in vehicle crashes on Wisconsin roads now have the convenience of getting copies of their crash reports online. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) now offers crash reports online at the official Wisconsin DMV website: www.wisconsinDMV.gov or the Crash Reports webpage: <https://app.wi.gov/crashreports>. Read the DOT press release.

www.dot.wi.gov/news/news-new.htm

Replacing Lost Wisconsin Driver License or ID Begins Conveniently Online

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) can replace lost valid driver licenses or state ID cards through its online services, www.wisconsinDMV.gov. This is available 24/7 and includes a photo receipt which can be printed at home. This receipt is acceptable photo identification for voting and serves as the license or ID until the card arrives in the mail. Read the DOT press release.

www.dot.wisconsin.gov/news/index.htm

Region IV

New Specialty License Plates Now Available (Arizona)

Three new specialty license plates to help personalize and customize your vehicle are now available for purchase from the Arizona Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Division. Read the DOT press release.

<http://www.azdot.gov/media/News/news-release/2014/09/23/new-specialty-license-plates-now-available>

California Department of Motor Vehicles Provides Update on AB 60 Implementation

After engaging in more than 80 public outreach events across the state, the California Department of Motor Vehicles today provided a public update on the status of AB 60 implementation, including plans for new field offices, additional staff and training, license design and regulations detailing documents required to prove identity and residence. Read the DMV press release.

https://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/newsrel/newsrel14/2014_62a.htm

Feds OK Words for California's Immigrant Licenses

Federal officials have given their backing to a redesigned license for immigrants living in California illegally, which includes wording that distinguishes it from those for legal residents. Homeland Security officials told the California Department of Motor Vehicles that the state's decision to include the words "federal limits apply" on the face of the license would comply with a law that created national identification standards after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, according to a copy of the letter that was made public Friday. Read the full story at DailyDemocrat.com.

http://www.dailydemocrat.com/news/ci_26573489?source=rss

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https://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/newsrel/newsrel14/2014_62a.htm

CBI Launches Improved Cold Case Website (Colorado)

With the 8th annual National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims on September 25th, the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) announces the launch of the new and improved Cold Case

Database dedicated to providing detailed information about the state's 1,577 cold cases. Read the full story at KREXTV.com.

<http://www.krextv.com/story/cbi-releases-updated-online-cold-case-database-20140925>

Williams Leaving New Mexico MVD

Mark Williams is leaving his position as Administrator of the New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division on October 3. He has accepted a position as Director of Public Health for the New Mexico Department of Health. We wish Mark the best of luck in his new position.

SGI Reminds Motorists that Immediate Roadside Vehicle Seizures are Now in Effect for Distracted Driving (Saskatchewan)

The province-wide traffic safety spotlight may have focused on distracted driving in August, but speeding remained an issue. Police caught 3,719 drivers exceeding the speed limit during the month, down slightly from the 4,028 speeding violations they issued in July. Read the full story at ILSTV.com.

<http://www.ilstv.com/>

Other News

GM Recalls Cadillacs, Impalas; Chrysler to Repair SUVs

General Motors Co., the largest U.S. automaker, is recalling some Cadillac and Impala cars while Chrysler Group LLC called back some Jeep and Dodge sport utility vehicles, according to government reports today. Read the full story at BusinessWeek.com.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2014-09-20/gm-recalls-cadillacs-impalas-chrysler-to-repair-suvs>

Smartphones Tripping up Pedestrians, Too

14-year-old boy was injured when he walked off a 6-foot-high bridge into a ditch while talking on his phone. A 23-year-old man was hit by a car while walking down the middle of a road, talking on his phone. The dangers of distracted driving are well known and have sparked new laws, but safety experts are increasingly concerned about a more-recent trend: distracted walking. Read the full story at Dispatch.com.

http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/national_world/2014/09/22/smartphones-tripping-up-pedestrians-too.html

Fake Driver's Licenses are Flooding Our Market and Could Pose a Real Threat

2 Investigator Dave Savini reports these bogus licenses are being produced overseas and sold online. State and federal officials say they want to shut down the sales of them. Bogus licenses are seized by U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials in big numbers, says Chief Customs Officer Brian Bell. "We

have hundreds of boxes of these,” he says. “They are all containing counterfeit driver’s licenses.” They are incredible fakes. Smuggled into this country by high-tech forgery rings that have mastered the details so well, they could lead to critical security threats. Each license costs about \$150. Read the full story at Chicago.CBSLocal.com.

<http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2014/09/22/2-investigators-china-floods-u-s-with-near-perfect-fake-drivers-licenses/>

NIOSH Resource Offers Sleep Tips for Truck Drivers

Driving a truck isn’t for the faint of heart. The hours are long, the work is demanding and fatigue is a life-threatening occupational hazard. NIOSH earlier this month unveiled a new publication that offers tips for improving sleep quality to improve driver health and help reduce the risk of drowsy driving and vehicle crashes. Read the full article on EHSToday.

<http://ehstoday.com/safety/niosh-resource-offers-sleep-tips-truck-drivers>

Single Statistic Can Strengthen Public Support for Traffic Safety Laws

Public support for effective road safety laws, already solid, can be strengthened by a single number: a statistic that quantifies the traffic-related injury risks associated with a given law, according to a new study from the Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Read the full story at ScienceDaily.com.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/09/140924135016.htm>

Iris Scans are the New School IDs

Kids lose their school IDs but they don't often lose their eyeballs. That's one of the reasons why a growing number of schools are replacing traditional identification cards with iris scanners. By the fall, several schools -- ranging from elementary schools to colleges -- will be rolling out various iris scanning security methods. Read the full story at Money.CNN.com.

<http://money.cnn.com/2013/07/11/technology/security/iris-scanning-school/>

Did You Know

BICYCLE FACTS AND SAFETY

- Two percent of motor vehicle crash deaths are bicyclists.
- In 2012, 4,743 pedestrians and 726 bicyclists were killed in crashes with motor vehicles
- In a majority of these deaths, the most serious injuries were to the head, highlighting the importance of wearing a bicycle helmet.
- Twenty-one states and the District of Columbia have helmet laws applying to young bicyclists; none of these laws applies to all riders.
- Local ordinances in a few states require some or all bicyclists to wear helmets.

- It is estimated that 28 percent of bicyclists age 20 and older who were killed in 2012 had blood alcohol concentrations (BACs) at or above 0.08 percent.
- Thirty-seven percent of bicyclist deaths in 2012 occurred at intersections.
- Fifty-nine percent of bicyclist deaths in 2012 occurred on major roads other than interstates and freeways, and 36 percent occurred on minor roads.

Learn more online:

- Pedestrians and bicyclists (IIHS) <http://www.iihs.org/iihs/topics/t/pedestrians-and-bicyclists/fatalityfacts/bicycles>
- Pedestrian and Bicyclist Crash Statistics (Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center) http://www.pedbikeinfo.org/data/factsheet_crash.cfm
- Bicycle Safety (NHTSA) <http://www.nhtsa.gov/Bicycles>
- Bicycle Helmet Stats (Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute) <http://www.helmets.org/stats.htm>